



Future Leaders Pavilion Showcases Student Talent

Visitors to I/ITSEC 2019 will gain an impressive insight of the talent which America's high school students will be able to bring to tomorrow's modeling and simulation community at the Future Leaders Pavilion [Booth 2980].

The students will present their projects at 1600-1730 today in Room S320F during a session entitled 'The Future is Now!'. Awards will be presented during a ceremony tomorrow at 1415 in Booth 2588 [Innovation Showcase].

This is the 17th year that the NTSA has hosted the Future Leaders Pavilion and Paper Session. It spotlights the work of students from across the USA who are committed to excellence. Most are enrolled in engineering, computer sciences, mathematics, or modeling and simulation tracks. Since 2002, secondary schools from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, New York State, Texas, Virginia, as well as schools from India, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom have been represented.

It is vital to America's national security and economic prosperity that more students are encouraged to pursue studies and careers in the STEM field: 40 per cent of US companies report difficulty in filling positions because of a lack of STEM skills. The US would gain an extra \$2.5 trillion in GDP between now and 2050 if its students scored at the international average on math and science tests.

The partnership of NTSA, the Florida High Tech Corridor Council and other 'STEM-U-Lators' makes it possible to bring I/ITSEC to the classroom through the STEMConnect program. Tomorrow, I/ITSEC will welcome about 600 high school students, accompanied by school chaperones and volunteer I/ITSEC member escorts, who will experience first-hand simulation, training and education solutions that will help bridge the gap between classroom theory and the applied use of STEM subjects.

I/ITSEC offers RADM Fred Lewis Postgraduate Scholarships and Leonard P. Gollobin Postgraduate Scholarships to stimulate student interest and university participation in preparing individuals for leadership in the simulation, training and education communities. Masters level scholarships are for \$5,000 and Doctoral level for \$10,000. Over \$500,000 in scholarship awards have been distributed to date.

NTSA has established the inaugural Barbara McDaniel Undergraduate Scholarship program this year to acknowledge the substantial contributions of a long-time I/ITSEC leader. Mrs. McDaniel, the recipient of the I/ITSEC 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award, tirelessly supported all aspects of I/ITSEC since 1993. She began her career as an educator, so these awards will honor her life-long passion for the education of America's youth. These new scholarship awards will help keep the MS&T workforce pipeline filled, now starting at the Undergraduate level. In its inaugural year, NTSA awarded \$10,000 to each of three universities: Full Sail University in Orlando, FL; Wright State University in Dayton, OH; and, Auburn University in Auburn, AL.

The Students and High Schools Represented in the FLP

Bishop Moore Catholic High School, Orlando, FL

Marcus Lisman, Patrick Snider, Liam Sy presenting 'Test Anxiety Management Exercise (TAME)'

Sachse High School, Sachse, TX

Gabriela (Gaby) Terwillinger and Rhea Batitang present 'Sachse Emergency Response Simulation'

Shaker High School, Latham, NY

Haejin Lee, Kayla Na and Varun Morishetty present 'Mental Health Screening Software to Determine Suicidal Tendencies Among Teenagers'

Lake Highland Preparatory School, Orlando, FL

Matthew Potesman and Walter Kalowsky present 'Guppy: Bridging the Learning Gap in Computer Science Education'

La Salle College High School Philadelphia, PA

Collin Price and Benjamin Guida present 'Unclear turn signals and their effects on road safety'

Benjamin Franklin High School, New Orleans, LA

Amy Ndiaye and Angelina Jorgenson present 'Improving Social Cue Comprehension in Individuals with ASD Using Virtual Reality'

Congratulations to them all!